

12 May 1988

19 MAY 1988

DDA *Handwritten*

Note To: Director of Logistics

From: [redacted] DC/FMD

About: Meeting Today with C/SE on NHB Space

- All the safes, vaults, + private offices in the world would not have prevented the Howard case!

John,

[redacted] brought [redacted] by today for a look at our Corry-Hiebert furniture (especially superstructures), our conservaviles, and the comparison of 80 inch versus 5 foot high partitions. John and Chuck have really been trying to sell [redacted] on fewer walls, more 5 foot partitions (vice 80 inch), and conservaviles in lieu of safes.

[redacted] did not come down here expecting to be convinced that he can give up hardwalls and safes, and the walkthrough of FMD's space did not do it. He stood inside an 80 inch partitioned office with the door shut and said he could hear every conversation in the area. He looked at the locks on Corry-Hiebert superstructures and conservaviles and found them unacceptable as replacements for safes. He gave us his views on how this is the CIA and not General Motors, and thus we should stop trying to look like GM in our offices. And, basically, he went away without agreeing to the changes [redacted] proposed to him.

I explained that the open office architecture was blessed by the ExCom, and that no office other than SE had raised the issue of such strenuous security compartmentation for people in a single component. He talked about the Howard case and said that SE is special and cannot be bound by solutions just because they work for other components.

The bottom line is that C/SE is unlikely to back off his position. [redacted] have done a lot of work to get him to change his mind, but without success. C/SE even suggested he would tell Congress if the Agency tried to move his component into space he felt was unsecure for SE.

I guess that leaves us back at square one with SE. [redacted] said they would get back to me later.

DDA REGISTRY

Jim

FILE: 100-20

*Not quite written by email*

Log-10

P.S. -- You might want to inform the ADDA/DDA that some of the comments which others are attributing to them, about our ability to lock Corry-Hiebert furniture and conservaviles, are incorrect. It is not reasonable to tack-weld a locking bar on every drawer of a conservavile. And the single key lock for conservaviles and Corry-Hiebert furniture is fairly flimsy at best. We could put bar locks on conservaviles to lock the entire cabinet, and that would make them much sturdier. Same thing for superstructures. But that would be a big undertaking, and I would hate to try to do it before the moves.

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